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MANAGERESS.

THE OVERCROWDING EVIL.

COMMENTS BY LIEUT. OLITSKY, M.R.C., U.S.A.

In his report on the investigations of the outbreak of epidemic meningitis in Hongkong, Lieut. P. K. Olitsky, M.R.C., U.S.A., of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, New York, made the following reference to overcrowding in the Colony:

As the disease was limited in a great degree to the overcrowded sections, it is important to investigate this phase of the epidemiology of epidemic meningitis.

Three causes operate to effect overcrowding. In the first place there are too many houses on too small a space, in this way causing structures to be in close proximity. In turn this gives rise to insufficient ventilation and for the most part, very little light. The arcways and the streets or lanes are so narrow and the houses are so high (in proportion to the narrowness of the street) that not only ventilation and light becomes deficient but the air is always damp from wetness of the passageways. They are never thoroughly dry, possibly from the position of the Chinese community, namely, at the foot of the hills where the water from the higher altitudes is continually settling.

In the second place, there are no arrangements for ventilation within the house. A typical example may be cited. On June 17th, 1918, through the courtesy of Mr. Adam Gibson, head of the Sanitary Department, I was permitted to make an inspection of No. 10th, Chinese Street. This was done at about 11 p.m. I was accompanied by Inspector R. R. Wood of the Sanitary Department. The first and second floors were inspected. The house is three storeys high. The measurements of the first floor are as follows:—Length, 31 ft. 6 in.; Width, 15 ft. 10 in.; Height, 11 ft. 3 in.; thus making 5,818 cubic feet, or 5,295 net cubic feet allowing for a stairway. The total window area equalled 51.8 square feet; one of the windows opens into a narrow street, the other into a chimney-like airway.

The windows and door were bolted. I was informed that this is a usual practice to avoid thievery or intrusion. The air was quite foul.

Not only was there no ventilation on this floor but a third factor of the overcrowding was in evidence here. This factor is the crowding of too many inmates occupying one floor.

This floor was subdivided into four cubicles, each cubicle containing the following number of persons: No. 1, six persons; No. 2, three persons; No. 3, two persons; No. 4, two persons. In a narrow half-way were boards and trestles which were occupied by seven persons, making the total number of inmates twenty. The usual cubicle on this floor measured 7 feet in width, about 8 feet in length and 8 feet in height. Thus six persons in cubicle No. 1 existed in 336 cubic feet of air space—the air therein being unventilated.

The second floor contained seventeen persons, but the measurements and arrangements were the same in extent and arrangement. The doors and windows were likewise bolted.

Inspections were made at the following houses which yielded cases of epidemic meningitis:

House No. 1, Wo Lo Lane. 14
48, Stanley St. 13
1, Jubilee St. 20

In all these houses, the legal restrictions insist on seven to nine persons to the floor; the actual number was thirteen to twenty. The measurements and cubic contents are in the main as given above for the Chinese Street house. But besides the actual overcrowding, as well as series of dwellings, there was, as well, no ventilation. The cubicles were heavily curtained, admitting no air whatever.

Hence, there are too many houses over too small an area, there are no sanitary arrangements for light and air within the houses, and there are too many persons living within the house. The relationship of these factors to the spread of the epidemic will be discussed later.

The tendency of the Chinese to overcrowd is noted throughout the community. The market is crowded daily and the streets surrounding the market are so filled with persons that at times it is impossible to thread one's way through. So the tram-cars, the lodging houses, schools, the matchboxes, the streets and lanes, etc.

The factor which impresses one as being of greatest importance in the dissemination of the disease in the Colony is the extensive overcrowding. The bases upon which this conclusion rests are:

1. The meteorological conditions.
2. The relative incidence of the disease in crowded and in uncrowded districts.
3. The lack of relationship between the number of carriers and the spread of the disease.
4. The bacteriological evidence obtained from the patients.

It has been demonstrated that the meteorological factors have an important relationship to the dissemination of epidemic meningitis. Cold weather especially in the absence of sunlight resulted in an increase in the number of cases. On the other hand, the meningococcus is "a fragile micro-organism and does not long withstand ordinary air temperatures and the drying of the secretions containing them; once separated from nasopharynx, it soon succumbs in external nature." But when the cold weather appears the population, already overcrowded, abandon the habit of sleeping out in the open streets and literally warm in the cubicles. These cubicles are box-like compartments, completely shut in the cold nights, unventilated and overcrowded.

Should one inmate harbour the meningococcus it will soon be distributed over all the others of the dwelling. The mechanism of dissemination is more or less direct; it consists in the ejection of the nasopharyngeal secretions into the surrounding atmosphere. This ejection does not take place during ordinary breathing and little, as a rule, during quiet speaking. But in loud speaking and particularly in coughing, sneezing, hawking and spitting, the secretions may be sprayed and scattered widely.

Thus, while the meningococcus is a very fragile organism and succumbs easily in external nature, in overcrowded and ill-ventilated conditions it passes from one to another readily. The cold temperatures, while detrimental to the meningococcus outside the body, by bringing about a condition of overcrowding and close contact, favors the general dissemination of this micro-organism.

The relative incidence of the disease in crowded and uncrowded districts adds further evidence. The disease took its greatest toll from the crowded districts. Among the Europeans the incidence was as 1:250, among the Chinese it was 1:100. Yet epidemic meningitis is not peculiarly a disease of the Chinese. In Swatow, similarly, about sixty cases developed—all among Chinese, who live under the same (or possibly worse) conditions as in Hongkong. On the "Iras Pacific," or the coast-line steamships, numerous cases have occurred. In the crowded storage and but rarely has a case occurred among the cabin passengers. Among the Chinese themselves, in the less crowded areas of Kowloon, fewer cases have been developed.

On the other hand, at Canton there were no authenticated cases of epidemic meningitis among the Chinese, according to the medical authorities at the Canton Hospital. The crowding at Canton is of a different nature from that in the Colony. In the former city, there are too many dwelling houses, on too small a space, but there are no cubicles, within the houses. Each house has two storeys; the upper one usually has an open sky light. Each floor is subdivided into two large rooms with beds along the walls, so that the usual number of occupants, five to seven, have sufficient air space; the front and rear walls open completely on to balconies or to the street. In other words, the Cantonese live in better ventilated quarters and are less crowded within their dwellings than the natives of Hongkong.

This evidence based on the relative incidence in crowded and uncrowded living conditions shows the direct influence of crowding upon the dissemination of epidemic meningitis.

The bacteriological evidence obtained from patients suffering from epidemic meningitis offers additional proof of the spread of the epidemic by close contact. That almost all (95 per cent.) of the patients examined should be infected with one type, when other types are present in the community commands attention. While the evidence is not conclusive, yet it is very suggestive of the great communicability of the disease directly from one person to another—a condition which is usually brought about by close contact of individuals.

The epidemic having gained headway, it is possible that its continuance depends on the constant immigration into the Colony, adding new susceptible individuals to the epidemic areas who come in contact in this way with the sources of infection. To this may be added the unhygienic habits of the natives—the use of common drinking cups and towels; the use of the numerous uncleaned food utensils by the numerous patrons of the street and house restaurants; the placing of food directly on streets which are covered with mud and dirt; and, indeed, the many nose discharges and the Chinese community of distributing the nasopharyngeal secretions from one to another.

An attempt has been made to demonstrate the importance of overcrowding of the population upon the wide-spread dissemination of the disease. Indeed, it may be stated, that as long as the overcrowding continues, under additional adverse conditions of life, as, a cold winter season, the occurrence of infections of nose and throat mucous membranes, thus increasing the spraying capacity of individuals, and a migrating population, outbreaks may occur in the Colony from time to time.

It is beyond the scope of this investigation to state how this great social and economic problem of allocating, as it were, the enormous numbers of Chinese from the small area of their community may be accomplished. Reclamation of land and colonizing the adjacent New Territories by improving transit facilities suggest themselves. But this question is left for solution by the Government.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

POST-WAR EXCLUSION OF CRITICISM OF THE GOVERNMENT.

GERMANS.

MALAYAN PLANTING OPINION.

At a meeting of the Planters' Association of Malaya, held in Penang on November 28th, the subject of the exclusion of Germans from British Malaya, after the war, was discussed.

The Hon. Mr. R. C. M. Kindersley, chairman, introducing the subject, said:—Now that peace may be said to be within sight, it becomes our duty to consider the extremely important question of whether Germans are to be allowed to settle in our midst again. I mention Germans alone, as although their allies, Austrians, Bulgarians and Turks, have been proved under their German leaders to be thoroughly bad, we do not look on them, as we do on the Germans, as unclean beasts. It would be an insult to our glorious dead, if we were to welcome back here those murderers whose hands are stained with the blood of our murdered countrymen, women and children. (Applause.) Gentlemen, let there be no mistake. The people of Germany are no better than their leaders. They cheered their leaders at the outbreak of war. They cheered their leaders over such crimes as the Lusitania, Nurse Cavell, and Captain Fryatt, and they would cheer their leaders now, and they would treat our women and children and towns as they did those of Belgium and Northern France, if they had been victorious. Let us hope that no weakness on the part of the Allied Governments will allow Germans to escape the punishment they have earned. Let us hope that until they have been made to repent, they will not be admitted to any of the Allied countries. Had the Germans fought cleanly, and lost, we could have shaken them by the hand as gallant foes. But they have not fought cleanly. They are murderers, and worse than murderers. I hope a member will propose that the Government of this country should address the Home Government to the effect that no German be permitted to enter into business or to obtain employment in this country for a period of years, and then only under licence from the Government. (Applause.)

Mr. McVee proposed the following resolution, and, on Colonel Fox seconding, it was carried unanimously:—That, this meeting of the Planters' Association of Malaya expresses its earnest desire to H.E. the Governor of the Straits Settlements and High Commissioner of the Federated Malay States, that no person of German nationality be permitted to engage in trade or to obtain employment in British Malaya for a period of years after the Declaration of Peace, and even then only on licence granted by the Government.

Not only should the prevention of overcrowding be directed against the living quarters, but the Government should also consider the overcrowding of tea-rooms, schools, theatres or places of public assembly and workshops.

The facts which lead to the conclusion that overcrowding rather than the actual numbers of carriers determines the spread of the disease are:

(1)—The meteorological conditions. The colder the weather, the greater becomes the overcrowding, and as a consequence greater is the number of cases developed.

(2)—The relative incidence of the disease in crowded and uncrowded districts shows a direct decrease in the latter sections and a similar increase in the former.

(3)—The prevalence of a single type in many of the patients (although all the types of meningococci have been found in carriers) points to the possibility of the infection travelling from one to another by direct contact. In crowded conditions of existence this contact is, of course, closer.

(4)—The goal in which almost ideal conditions exist with regard to an absence of overcrowding, although harbouring 24.61 per cent of carriers among 130 inmates, yielded no cases during the epidemic.

(5)—Furthermore, the extent of carriers among contacts was less than among the prisoners.

(6)—Also, the number of European contacts was greater than Chinese although the disease was almost entirely limited to the Chinese.

With regard to prevention, the important measures have been shown to be:

(a)—The education of the Chinese in order to effect an active co-operation with the health and sanitary authorities.

(b)—The prevention of overcrowding.

(c)—The prevention of droplet infection, the infections of the nose and throat, by the instruction of the principles of personal hygiene and, under the conditions indicated above, the employment of masks.

(d)—The detection and treatment of contact carriers, including the isolation of those carriers who harbour numerous meningococci (especially of the same type which is present in the patient).

(e)—The isolation of the patients, including the mild and ambulatory types.

(f)—The discharge of patients and carriers after three examinations at five-day intervals show the absence of meningococci.

(g)—Although still in an experimental stage, the use of preventive inoculations of anti-meningococci vaccine.

INTERESTING MALAYAN OPINION.

The Hon. Mr. R. C. M. Kindersley, chairman of the Planters' Association of Malaya, presiding over a meeting of that body held in Penang on November 28th, made an interesting statement in reference to the criticism occasionally levelled at the Government of the F.M.S. by the Association. He said:—I have had it in my mind for some time to remark on what I consider the rather undesirable tone adopted at times by this Association towards the Government. There has been for some years a tendency to abuse the Government upon nearly every question that comes up. I am not speaking of criticism. Criticism is very desirable, if it is fair and in moderation. It should be remembered that there are two sides to every question, and it appears to me that if the Government treat us in an off-hand manner and do not consult us when we expect to be consulted, perhaps this Association may not be altogether blameless. I put it to you that if we criticise the Government's conduct unreasonably, and then go to them and ask what we wish done, is it surprising that we get rather a cold reception? I have heard it said that this Association is getting a rather undesirable reputation. We have to work with the Government, and to my mind we shall usually benefit if we can work with them better than we have done recently. I feel that the Government will be quite ready to meet us half way. I do not counsel servility, but I strongly desire to see the business of the Association conducted in a proper manner.

Mr. J. W. Kennedy, chairman of the Malay Peninsula Agricultural Association, said he was in agreement to a very great extent with the chairman's remarks, and he hoped that everyone would support the chairman's plea for moderation. He thought, however, that they were bound to realise that plain speaking and strong criticism were sometimes necessary. If such were fair and justified, they need not be inconsistent with moderation. When the late chairman of the Association relinquished office, Mr. Harvey stated that he was at one with him with regard to the Government, but that at the same time when strong speaking was demanded they should speak as freely. He was quite sure that no member of the Association would ever go to extremes in speaking against the Government. They all realised the importance of Government consideration. Some of the criticism of the Government may have been justified, and some of it may not. It was a matter of opinion. He thought that there were some of themselves who had not been so fortunate as to be able to probe the depths of diplomacy, but at the same time he thought none of them would wish to come to the level of the street-corner orator or the agitator. He thought they could trust the members of the Association to see that the dignity of the Association is upheld. (Applause.)

NAVAL EXAMINATION SERVICE DISCONTINUED.

A Government Gazette extraordinary states:—

The Naval Examination Service, which was instituted on the 2nd August, 1914, will come to an end at 8 a.m., on Thursday, the 5th December, 1918.

There will no longer be any restriction on the channels by which vessels may enter the port.

The Police examination, which is carried out under the Travellers Restriction Ordinance, 1915, will continue.

Pending the issue of regulations which will alter certain details of this Police examination, all ocean-going ships must notify the police flag on entering the port and should proceed to their buoys and there await the arrival of the police. No person is to be allowed to land from any such ship until the police examination has taken place, and no such ship may go alongside a pier or alongside any other ship until that examination has taken place. No ocean-going ship shall leave the Colony until it has been examined by the police.

A launch will be stationed at each entrance to the port for the purpose of directing ocean-going ships to fly the police flag and to proceed to their buoys. British and Allied ships which are fitted with wireless telegraph apparatus will not be required to lower their aerial wires, or to seal up the apparatus on arrival within the waters of the Colony. This relaxation of the wireless telegraphy regulations shall not apply to neutral ships.

NAVAL AND DOCKYARD BRANCH Q.M.N.G.

The above branch recommended working on board H.M.S. Tamar, on September 6th, meeting one day a week.

The following 24 members rejoined:—Messrs. Barnett, Brown, Bentley, Caroy, Cress, Cochran, Draper, Heard, Inner, Knight, Kennet, Long, Platt, Phillips, Rodney, Sanders, Seale, Seale, Windbank, Windfall, Miss Lillie, Miss Parker, Miss Rodney. Cutters out:—Messrs. Knight, Brown, Long, Cress and Carey.

The articles sent up to date to the City Hall comprise: 35 pyjamas, 94 shirts, 20 bedjackets, 20 doz handkerchiefs, 87 vests, 10 mosquito nets, 44 mops, 13 pneumonia jackets, 7 knee caps, 4 pairs socks, 3 jerseys, 15 pants, and 2 doz. jug covers.

The members have decided to continue working under the War Charities Committee till next summer.

THE MURDER OF SERGEANT LINFIELD.

INDIAN CONSTABLE IN THE DOCK.

PRISONER CROSS-EXAMINES WITNESSES.

The hearing was resumed at the Magistracy, yesterday before Mr. J. R. Wood, of the case in which Sardullah Khan, an Indian constable attached to the Royal Naval Yard Police, was charged with the murder of Sergeant Harry Linfield, of the same force.

Mr. T. H. King, A.S.P., prosecuted. The prisoner was undefended.

The Indian Sergeant-Major was recalled, as the prisoner expressed a desire to cross-examine him.

Prisoner: When he shouted to me for the first time I was on the Canton Road side; then I heard a faint voice calling out my name.

The Magistrate: When all the witnesses have finished you can call your witnesses.

Prisoner: After having some water I replied to the Sergeant-Major. When the Sergeant-Major says he asked me why I caused this trouble, and that I replied: "On account of my shame," it is incorrect. I told him that I had taken a dose of opium and was feeling cold and that I did not know what I was doing.

Witness: He did not say that.

Prisoner: When witness told me to come down I said "All right; I am not here to kill anyone." When the Commander told me to come down I said: "Yes, sir, I will come down the same way I went up."

Witness: I am not sure about that. I think the Commander called out to one of his men.

Prisoner: When I was coming down, a gentleman, Mr. Luck, said: "I will cut off your head." I said: "All right, I am not going to kill anyone."

THE PRISONER SURRENDERS.

Indian Sergeant, No. 110, Meer Alim, said:—I am stationed at the Hongkong Naval Yard. Shortly after midnight on November 10th I was called up from my quarters to go to the Kowloon Naval Depot. I went alone to the Kowloon Yard, by launch, and when I reached the depot I joined a search party at the petrol tank. I then assisted in the search of the coal-sheds.

Mr. King: Did you know then that the European Sergeant had been shot?

Witness: Yes, I was told by Sergeant No. 78, in the launch.

While you were carrying out the search did you hear any rifle shots?—Yes, several, at intervals. I went as far as coal shed No. 20.

What happened when you got there?—We stopped about three sheds away from No. 20 on the Canton side. We did not know on the roof of what shed prisoner was. We then heard prisoner speaking either to the Commander or to someone else.

When I heard this I ran towards Commander Myburgh to report the matter. Then I saw the Indian Sergeant-major and told him that I had heard a voice on the roof. I was told to hurry back to my post, and while I was on my way another European sergeant pointed out a ladder and told me that prisoner might have gone up it. I ran to the ladder under instructions from Inspector Churcher, and commenced shouting to prisoner, whom I could not see. I called out prisoner's name and he answered "yes." I told him to throw down the rifle. He refused, saying: "No, I am not going to throw down my rifle but am coming down with it." I said: "No, we cannot trust you; you had better throw your rifle down." Again he refused, stating that it might get broken and that he would carry it down. He also said: "I am not going to do anything; I will only carry my rifle down. I have been very unjustly treated. I am coming down, but I want you all to hear what I have got to say." I replied: "Yes, you come down. Everything you have to say will be heard." Prisoner then came down the ladder. As he landed at the bottom Inspector Churcher, two others and I surrounded him, and I snatched the rifle from his hand.

Mr. King: Before he came down did the prisoner do anything with the rifle?

Witness: Yes, I heard the noise of the opening and shutting of the breach.

Was there a bayonet on the rifle?—Yes. Was there a scabbard on the bayonet or was it bare?—It was bare.

What happened next?—When he landed on the ground he had a cartridge in his hand, which he handed to me. It was similar to the cartridges in the bandolier. Had he anything else on his person?—The bandolier was worn across the

shoulder. The Inspector took the bandolier off prisoner's shoulder. Two Europeans who were with us took the prisoner into custody and led him to the main gate.

When you got to the main gate what did you do?—At the main gate I handed the rifle and bandolier to Sergeant Allen. I did not examine the breach of the rifle to see whether it was loaded. I searched the left side-pocket of the coat defendant was wearing and found three bullets. I did not search his right pocket.

Mr. King: Some more bullets were found in his right pockets.

The Magistrate: At what time did prisoner come down?—Witness: It was early in the morning. I took prisoner to the Police Station afterwards.

Prisoner: I came to the place where the ladder was, under the Commander's instructions. The witness asked me to throw the rifle down. I said: "No, I will bring it with me; I am not a murderer. The rifle is Government property, and if I throw it, it may break." When he speaks of the noise he heard he refers to the fact that I unloaded my rifle and held the bullet in my hand. I was carrying the rifle from the leather sling when I got down the ladder. Sergeant Luck said: "You —, I am going to shoot you." I said: "If you want to shoot me you can do so; I am not going to kill anybody."

THE SEARCH FOR THE PRISONER. Inspector N. Churcher deposed: About 11.30 p.m. on November 10th, I received a telephone message from Kowloon depot. I went to Kowloon, arriving there at about 11.30 p.m. I saw the body of Sergeant Linfield lying under some trees on the north side of the bridge, near the store-room. I was then standing on the bridge, but did not approach the body, as shots were coming from the direction of the coal-sheds. I turned out the Naval Yard Police and armed them, and made dispositions in order to capture prisoner. I left the depot and went by launch to the coaling jetty on the top of which are the petrol tanks. I do not think there was any firing at the time. On landing shortly after 1 a.m. I went with several other constables to No. 19 shed and heard a conversation which was in progress between the Sergeant-Major and somebody who was on the roof. Commander Myburgh, also, was there. I then went up to a ladder at No. 11 coal-shed, facing the Canton Road. Sergeant Lockhart called out that somebody was on the roof and I then knew that prisoner was there. I told Sergeant No. 110 to tell the prisoner to come down.

The Magistrate: At what time did he come down?—Witness: About 3 a.m.

So that you were for about 3 hours near the ladder?—No, we were trying to work our way through the coal-sheds, as it was at first thought that prisoner had hidden himself behind some boxes inside the coal-shed. All the coal stacks were searched before he was located on the roof, this being at about 4.15 a.m. Defendant came down and gave himself up. I corroborate the details given by the previous witness as to what occurred at the time.

The bandolier was not filled with cartridges, a number of rounds being missing. Prisoner was disarmed and taken to the main gate.

The Magistrate: What was prisoner's state?—Witness: He was in an excited condition.

Mr. King: Did he appear to be rational?—Witness: No, he was not quite normal.

Did it strike you that prisoner was under the influence of liquor or any particular drug at the time?—No, it did not strike me.

During the time you were in the Yard did the shots continue?—They were frequent at first, and afterwards went on at long intervals.

Can you say whether anybody, except defendant, fired any shot?—Yes, I know that between midnight and 1 a.m. two shots were fired in the Yard by a marine from the verandah of one of the stores. They were fired under my orders at an object on the same verandah which could not be distinguished. This was considerably after I had seen deceased's body.

As far as you know, were any other shots fired except by defendant?—I have reason to believe that other shots were fired by other persons, but do not know it definitely. Later, I accompanied prisoner to the Water Police Station.

The Magistrate: What service had the prisoner?—Witness: Eight years and six months.

He has suggested that he has had a bad reputation amongst the officers?—No, on the contrary, his reputation was good.

Has he missed promotion?—No, he is not eligible. Promotion is according to seniority.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

SPORT.

LAWN TENNIS.

LADIES' INTERCLUB TENNIS TOURNAMENT.

Played at the Peak Club on Monday with the following results:—

L.A.C.—Total, 51.

Mrs. Armstrong and Mrs. Kent beat Mrs. Anderson and Mrs. Cary, 8-3; beat Mrs. Stark and Miss Wilkinson, 9-2; beat Mrs. Bevington and Mrs. Dreaper, 8-3; beat Miss Robinson and Miss Ventris, 8-3—Total, 33-11.

Mrs. Hammond and Mrs. Nisbet beat Mrs. Anderson and Mrs. Cary, 7-4; lost to Mrs. Stark and Miss Wilkinson, 4-7; lost to Mrs. Bevington and Mrs. Dreaper, 5-8; lost to Miss Robinson and Miss Ventris, 9-2—Total, 18-26.

Peak Club—Total, 48.

Mrs. Anderson and Mrs. Cary lost to Mrs. Armstrong and Mrs. Kent, 3-9; lost to Mrs. Nisbet and Mrs. Hammond, 4-7; beat Mrs. Bevington and Mrs. Dreaper, 7-4; beat Miss Robinson and Miss Ventris, 8-3—Total, 32-22.

Mrs. Stark and Miss Wilkinson lost to Mrs. Armstrong and Mrs. Kent, 2-9; beat Mrs. Hammond and Mrs. Nisbet, 7-4; beat Mrs. Bevington and Mrs. Dreaper, 8-3; beat Miss Robinson and Miss Ventris, 9-2—Total, 28-18.

U.S.R.C.—Total, 33.

Mrs. Bevington and Mrs. Dreaper lost to Mrs. Armstrong and Mrs. Kent, 3-9; beat Mrs. Hammond and Mrs. Nisbet, 6-5; lost to Mrs. Anderson and Mrs. Cary, 4-7; lost to Mrs. Stark and Miss Wilkinson, 3-8—Total, 16-23.

Miss Robinson and Miss Ventris lost to Mrs. Armstrong and Mrs. Kent, 3-8; beat Mrs. Hammond and Mrs. Nisbet, 9-2; lost to Mrs. Anderson and Mrs. Cary, 3-8; lost to Mrs. Stark and Miss Wilkinson, 9-2—Total, 17-27.

The L.R.C. has now won the Ladies' Challenge shield three times and the Peak Club once.

LADIES' SINGLES OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP.

Mrs. Armstrong, L.R.C., plays Miss Robinson, U.S.R.C., on Friday at the U.S.R.C. The winner meets Mrs. Miller, Wigwam, who had a walk-over from Mrs. Mitchell, U.S.R.C. The latter beat Miss L. Scott, of Taikeo.

THEFT FROM THE "COLOMBIA."

At the Hongkong Magistracy yesterday a Chinese was charged with stealing a quantity of piping, valued at \$50, from the "Colombia."

Mr. G. Constantine, engineer, stated that defendant was employed on board the vessel. Witness went into the store-room on Tuesday night and caught defendant and another man in the act of removing the piping. Both men fled as soon as they saw him, but he followed them and managed to arrest defendant on the upper deck. The other man escaped.

Defendant stated that he lost his cigarette-case and went down to the store-room to recover it. He was falsely accused.

Mr. Melbourne sentenced defendant to six weeks' hard labour.

Now, he speaks of an anonymous letter—was there anything of the sort?—No; this is the first time I have heard of it.

Had you any occasion to notice prisoner's behaviour during the last few months?—No, except for a report made against him in March, there was nothing wrong with him.

What were deceased's relations with the Indian police?—Deceased was a man very much liked by the Indian police.

Prisoner: Inspector Churcher says that only two shots were fired. He forgot to say that two volleys were fired by the marines from one of the torpedo-boats.

Witness: No; I know nothing about it.

Sergeant Allan of the Hongkong Yard, stated that he received a rifle at the main gate from Constable No. 110; also a bandolier, containing 30 "live" bullets (including three misfires). He found eight rounds of "live bullets" in the magazine. There were none in the barrel.

Prisoner: How many rounds of ammunition had I, and how many rounds did you take to the station?—Witness: Twenty-eight rounds.

Prisoner: What he says is true.

Mr. King: Did you or your party fire any rounds?—Witness: Not as far as I know.

Mr. Brown and M. Boyonnet gave corroborative evidence.

The case was remanded till Friday afternoon.

HONGKONG MAGISTRACY.

ALLEGED CONSPIRACY.

Two Chinese were charged with conspiracy to defraud another Chinese over, it is stated, the sale of a girl.

Mr. Melbourne remanded the case, fixing bail at \$500 each.

BRIBING A CONSTABLE.

A Chinese truck-owner was charged with offering a bribe of 50 cents to an Indian Sergeant.

The complainant stated that he was examining one of defendant's trucks, which was over-loaded, and defendant offered him 50 cents to refrain from taking any action.

Mr. Wood sentenced defendant to six weeks' hard labour.

AN OBSTRUCTION CASE.

A Chinese was charged with causing an obstruction in Wo Fong Lane, Wanchai.

Mr. P. W. Goldring, on behalf of the defendant, applied for a remand.

Sergeant Blackman agreed, but asked the Magistrate to inspect the obstruction, which proved to be a couple of putrid fish.

The Magistrate remarked that he did not think that evidence would be available at the next hearing, and he adjourned the case till Wednesday, fixing bail at \$25.

POSSESSION OF A DAGGER.

A Chinese was charged with being in unlawful possession of a dagger.

A Chinese detective stated that he noticed a crowd near Morrison Road, and saw defendant taking a dagger from his pocket, evidently with intention of using it in a fight which was imminent.

Witness dispersed the crowd and arrested defendant.

Defendant said he used the dagger to cut sausages with. As it was blunt he took it to a friend to have it sharpened. The friend then arrested him on suspicion.

Mr. Wood sentenced defendant to three months' hard labour.

A HEAVY FINE.

A Chinese pleaded guilty to attempting to export twelve taels of opium, and was fined \$1,000.

AN OPIUM CASE.

A Chinese woman was charged with being in unlawful possession of 17 taels of opium dross.

Defendant stated that she came from the country to Hongkong to collect a debt. The man who owned her the money gave her a pot of opium in payment. She did not know his whereabouts.

Mr. Melbourne fined defendant \$50; in default, one month's hard labour.

A BATCH OF DESERTERS.

W. Rutherford, aged 18, a native of U.S.A.; J. Margison, aged 23, of Norway; John Morgan, aged 18, of Australia; W. Van Asche, aged 17, of Australia; A. Sender, aged 18, of Belgium; Thor Reyerson, aged 23, of Norway—all seamen—were charged with being vagrants.

Inspector Kent stated that all the defendants were deserters from the Belgian sailing ship, "L'Agneur." The Police were instructed by the Harbour Master to search for defendants and they managed to locate four of them, but when they were taken to the Harbour Master's office it was discovered that the vessel had left. The defendants were housed in the Central Police Station, and on Thursday last were taken before the French Consul, who is acting Consul for Belgium. The Consul refused to have anything to do with them. They were again sent to the Harbour Master, who asked the Police to detain them till such time as he was able to get into communication with the Consul, and acquire whether or no they should be charged with desertion. The Consul refused to have anything to do with the matter, and the Police detained the defendants till Saturday.

The Magistrate: Are there no ship's agents here?—Witness: None at all. Yesterday I communicated with the Harbour Master for the third time, and he then informed me that the French Consul had wired to Peking on the matter and was waiting instructions. No reply has been received as yet. I thought the best thing would be to charge them with vagrancy and to communicate with the Government as to what should be done with them. They cost the Police as much as \$8.50 a day for food. They have no money of their own.

Defendants all admitted that they were deserters and were stranded in Hongkong.

Mr. Wood ordered them to be sent to the House of Detention.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

RELIABLE QUALITIES IN

GLOVES

FOR LADIES

JAEGER'S ALL-WOOL GLOVES

White and Natural, from \$1.00 per pair

SUEDE FINISH COTTON GLOVES

White and Yellow \$2.00 per pair

DENTS' KID AND SUEDE GLOVES

White, Grey, Black, Tan, from \$3.00 per pair

WHITE 16-BUTT. EVENING GLOVES \$4.50 per pair

FOR GENTLEMEN

JAEGER'S WOOL GLOVES

White, Khaki, Natural, Black, from \$1.00 per pair

NATURAL CHAMOIS LEATHER

\$2.75 per pair

DENTS' BROWN BUCKSKIN

\$6.00 per pair

" " " LINED WOOL \$6.50 per pair

MOTOR GAUNTLETS LINED WOOL \$9.50 per pair

THE LATEST NOVELTIES IN

MOTOR SCARVES.

Powell Ltd

NOW SHOWING

WARM WINTER COMFORTS

IN GREAT VARIETY.

HEAVY FLANNEL SHIRTS AND PYJAMAS.

UNDERWEAR IN ALL WEIGHTS & SIZES.

OVERCOATS, DRESSING-GOWNS, GLOVES.

SWEATERS, SOCKS, SLIPPERS, ETC.

EVERY GARMENT GUARANTEED.

SHING KEE CO.

SODA MERCHANTS,

IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS

OF

Castile Soda, Soda Ash, Murate of Ammonia, Silicate of Soda, Baked Bicarbonate of Soda, Mineral Water, and Soda Crystal, Bleaching Powder, Sulphur Acid, Sulphate of Ammonia, etc., etc.

ALWAYS IN STOCK.

No. 22, DES VOUZ ROAD, WEST HONGKONG

FOOK LEE & Co.

Established 1871.

IRON & STEEL PRODUCTS, HOUSE & SHIPBUILDING

& ENGINEERING MATERIALS.

HEAD OFFICE:

Nos. 2a, 2 & 4, HILLER STREET.

Phone 1174.

BRANCH OFFICE:

York Building, CHATER ROAD.

Phone 1360.

PRICE SENT ON APPLICATION.

MACARONI, PASTES, EGG NOODLES, VERMICELLI, AND ALL KINDS OF SOUP STUFFS.

ALL our Pastes bear the "Eccoster" label and are made from Flour of the Best Quality containing a large percentage of Gluten. Starch and Gluten are the principal components of Flour. Gluten is easier to digest and contains more nutriment than Starch. Manufactured under the most sanitary conditions.

Large quantities have been exported to various important cities in the World. Goods moderate, especially for Agencies. Orders executed promptly.

THE HING WAH PASTE MANUFACTURING CO., LTD.

Head Office: No. 47 and 48, Connaught Road, Central, Hongkong; Telephone No. 1225.

Principal Factory: No. 7, North Soochow Road, Shanghai, China; Telephone No. 3285.

Branch Factory: Wing Hing Street, Causeway Bay, Hongkong.

Cable Address: "HINGWAH" HONGKONG.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

HONGKONG ELECTRIC CO., LTD.

OWING to Alterations and Repairs at the Power Station the supply of ELECTRICITY will be SHUT OFF on SUNDAY, the 8th DECEMBER, from 7 A.M. to 1 P.M.

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, December 5th, 1918. [2 03]

HORSE FOR SALE

A Beautiful well trained RIDING HORSE for sale. For particulars apply to—

"SUN,"

Care of "Daily Press" Office.

[2764]

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATE No. 43/224, dated Hongkong 1st July, 1907, for Five Shares numbered 83139 to 83143 inclusive, all Registered in the name of ANNE MARION HARVEY, has been LOST or STOLEN and should this Provisional Certificate not be produced to the Bank before the 31st January, 1919, a new Certificate for the Shares will be issued and the aforesaid Provisional Certificate No. 43/224 will thereupon be treated by this Corporation as Null and Void.

By the Order of the Court of Directors,
N. J. STABB,
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, December 5th, 1918. [2765]

ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL.

ORGAN RECITAL

MONDAY NEXT.

AT

6 P.M.

[2766]

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT

DE PAUL.

will hold

THEIR 37th ANNUAL "AL FRESCO FETE"

Under the distinguished patronage of H.E. THE OFFICER ADMINISTERING THE GOVERNMENT.

in the Compound of the

ROMAN CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL,

on SUNDAY,

DECEMBER 8th, from 9 A.M. to 11.30 P.M.

Admission \$1.

Each ticket of admission carries with it the right to a souvenir if presented at the Souvenir Stalls on the evening of the Fete only.

Tickets can be had from MESSRS. KELLY & WALSH and MESSRS. GRACA & Co.,

Admission Free.

In the afternoon from 3 P.M. to 7 P.M. Children's Stalls will be opened and Tea and Cakes will be served.

Hongkong, November 12th, 1918. [2681]

PALATINE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED

(Incorporated in England).

WE HAVE This Day been appointed AGENTS for the above Company in Hongkong and are prepared to accept Fire Risks on Buildings and Merchandise at current rates.

HASTINGS, HODGE & Co.,

Hongkong, December 3rd, 1918. [2769]

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

M. JAMES STEER, chronometer, clock and nautical instrument repairer, notifies his patrons that he has removed from No. 4, D'AGUIAR STREET, to No. 9, LA HOUSE STREET.

M. JAMES STEER.

[2748]

FOUND.

IN Kowloon, a long haired Black and White DOG. Breed uncertain. Licence No. 742.

Owner can have same by applying at the PALACE HOTEL, Kowloon.

[2755]

WANTED.

YOUNG CAPABLE NURSE for Child of 4 years.—Apply Box 24, "Daily Press."

[2761]

FOR SALE.

MOTOR CAR. New six-cylinder 1100 miles. Perfect condition. Will accept reasonable offer. Owner leaving Colony.

Apply—
Box 2753, "Daily Press" Office.

[2763]

INTIMATIONS

HONGKONG ST. ANDREWS SOCIETY.

BY kind permission of the Military Authorities a DANCE will be held on SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7th, at 8.30 P.M. in the Cabaret Dance Hall, Murray Parade Ground. Tickets of admission, including Light Refreshment, at \$2 per head, will be obtainable at the entrance. The Officials connected with Heather Day and the Fair request all Ladies who assisted in these functions to attend as their guests. Any surplus funds after expenses are paid will go to St. Andrew's War Charities. Late trains and ferries will be arranged. There will be no auctions, rallies or other organisations. The Refreshments will be supplied by the Hongkong Hotel.

P. TOD,

Hon. Secretary.

[2750]

"HEATHER DAY" RAFFLE.

Winning Number.

Match-box 57
"R" Cushion 75
Tea Caddy Doll (won by G. Edgcombe) ... 136
Cushion "X" 20
Canaries 27
Cushion 17
Chateausse 80

The above Articles may be had by applying to the "MATRON" Government Civil Hospital, during Office hours, i.e. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

[2749]

HONGKONG POLICE RESERVE.

FANCY DRESS (CALICO) BALL

CITY HALL.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13th, 1918, 9 P.M.

TICKETS:—

Members of Police Reserve ... \$3.
Non-Members \$5.
Ladies Free.

Tickets may be obtained by or through members of the Police Reserve only. Applications must be made in person to the invitation Committee at Headquarters, City Hall, on and after Tuesday, December 3rd, between the hours of 5 and 6 P.M. Applications by letter will not be attended to.

Calico Fancy Dress is not compulsory. Other Fancy Dress or Costume Evening Dress may be worn. Prizes will be given, however, only for the most original costumes made of Calico.

The issue of Tickets will close at latest on TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10th, but at an earlier date if necessary.

[2737]

THE CHINA LIGHT & POWER COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the above Company will be held at the Registered Office of the Company, St. George's Building, Chater Road, Victoria, Hongkong, on WEDNESDAY, the 11th day of DECEMBER, 1918, at 12 o'clock Noon, for the purpose of considering and, if thought fit, passing as Extraordinary Resolutions the following Resolutions, viz:—

- (1) That it is desirable to reconstruct this Company, and accordingly that this Company be wound up voluntarily and that Hugh Frank Campbell of St. George's Building, Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong, Merchant, be appointed Liquidator for the purpose of such winding up at a remuneration of One hundred dollars.
- (2) That the General Managers of this Company be authorised and requested to form and procure to be incorporated, a new Company to be called the "China Light & Power Company (1918), Ltd." (of which they shall be appointed by Agreement General Managers) with the object (inter alia) of acquiring the undertaking, business, goodwill, machinery, plant, book-debts and all other assets whatsoever of this Company, and of carrying on business in or near Kowloon and/or elsewhere if thought desirable with Messrs. Shewan Tomes & Co., Hongkong, and their successors in business as General Managers so long as the General Managers for the time being (if a corporation) or (if an individual) any one or more partner or partners in the firm of the General Managers individually or collectively shall hold not less than one thousand shares of the Company.
- (3) That the proposed Memorandum and Articles of such new Company submitted to this meeting be and the same are hereby approved and that the Liquidator be authorised to consent to the registration of such new Company with such Memorandum and Articles accordingly.
- (4) That the draft Agreement submitted to this Meeting (marked "A") and expressed to be made between this Company and the Liquidator of the one part and the China Light & Power Company (1918), Ltd. of the other part be approved and that the Liquidator be authorised pursuant to Section 185 of the Companies Ordinance, 1911, to enter into an Agreement with such new Company (when incorporated) in the terms of the said draft and to carry the same into effect with such (if any) modifications thereof as he with the approval of the General Managers of the new Company thinks fit.
- (5) That the Liquidator be authorised to obtain advances from the General Managers of any monies requisite upon such terms as he thinks fit.

Should the above Resolutions be passed by the requisite majority they will be submitted for confirmation as Special Resolutions to a second Extraordinary General Meeting which will be subsequently convened.

Dated this 2nd day of December, 1918.

SHEWAN TOMES & Co.,

General Managers.

[2764]

INTIMATIONS

G. R.

SANITARY BOARD OFFICE.

HONGKONG.

To the OWNERS OF DOMESTIC BUILDINGS.

TAKE NOTICE that under No. 3 of the DOMESTIC CLEANLINESS and VENTILATION BY-LAWS (as amended), every Domestic Building, or part of such Building within the CENTRAL Division of the City of Victoria, and the WESTERN Division of Kowloon, occupied by Members of more than one family, except those within the European Reservation or in Kowloon South of Austin Road or those parts of a Domestic Building used as a Shop, Office or Godown, must be CLEANSED and LIME-WASHED THROUGHOUT by the owners during the months of December and January.

N.B.—The word "throughout" used in this Notice means that the House should be LIME-WASHED in respect of all the Walls of each Room, all Cupboards, Partitions, Stair Casings and Stair Linings, all Ceilings and the Underneath of Roof in Main Buildings, Offices and Servants' Quarters and inclusive of Verandahs.

The Backyard must have its containing walls LIME-WASHED up to the level of the First Floor.

Carved, Painted or Polished Woodwork in good condition, however, need not be LIME-WASHED, but must be CLEANSED.

The Board is prepared to LIMEWASH FREE OF CHARGE a limited number of Buildings in those Divisions. OWNERS who desire to avail themselves of this offer should apply in writing to the Secretary on or before the 7th December, 1918.

Choice among applicants will be in the absolute discretion of the President.

The CENTRAL Division of the City lies between Gilmore Street and Peel Street on the East and Tank Lane and Cleverly Street on the West.

Kowloon is divided into the EASTERN and WESTERN Divisions by Nathan Road and a straight line drawn from the North end through the Yau-mai service Reservoir to the Northern Boundary of Kowloon.

D. DANBY,

Secretary.

Dated this 30th day of November, 1918.

[2738]

ERECTOR

The Toy-like structural Steel a Miniature of the

MECHANICAL WORLD

You will never grow tired of making Erector Models because

it's the most

FASCINATING TOY

in the world.

GRACA & CO.,

Dealers in Toys, Postage Stamps, Flower and Vegetable Seeds, &c., &c.

No. 10, WYNDHAM STREET, HONGKONG

[2846]

TO LET

GROUND TO LET.

A T WHITFIELD ROAD, CAUSEWAY BAY, next to our "Glass Factory," consisting of 16,000 Square feet suitable for storing Coal, &c., from January 1st, 1919.

Apply to—
KWONG SANG HONG, Ltd.,
248, Des Vaux Road Central.

[2747]

TO LET.

A HOUSE in Kintaford Terrace, Kowloon.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY Co., Ltd.

[2489]

TO LET.

A SHOP in Nathan Road, Kowloon.

Apply to—
HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE Co., Ltd.,
Alexandra Building.

[2900]

TO LET.

HOUSES on Shamone, Canton.

A HOUSE in Wongsichong Road.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY Co., Ltd.

[28]

FOR SALE.

GALESEND, 108, THE PRINCE, Fix Booms Grass Tennis Court, immediate possession.

Apply to—
C. H. GALE,
Public Works Department.

[2893]

WANTED.

HOUSE or FLAT, Furnished or Unfurnished, Peak or Upper Levels from January.

Apply to—
J. W. WHITE,
P.W.D.

[2742]

INTIMATION



BULL DOG LIGHT ALE

Fints and Splits.

BULL DOG STOUT

Pints and Splits.

SOLE AGENTS:

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.,

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,

TEL. 16.

[19]

HONGKONG OFFICE: 104, DES VAUX ROAD, C. LONDON OFFICE: 181, FLEET STREET, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, DECEMBER 5TH, 1918.

THE DAY OF RECKONING.

Recent cables make it clear that Civilization will not permit the malefactors of Europe to withdraw quietly into an easy obscurity. Very few people would be willing to trust them, for they have proved the truth of the maxim that "the leopard cannot change his spots." Many, however, may believe that the Germans would be powerless to organize any great evil in the future. Even if that be granted—though for our own part we consider it wiser to run no risks whatsoever—we must remember the past. The Allies, and especially our French comrades-in-arms, are not ready to wash off the slate of memory the hideous deeds perpetrated by the enemy during the war. They demand that the Kaiser and the junkers shall be tried. The German system of philosophy failed to produce the "super-man" but helped to mould the mind of the "super-criminal." If to commit a murder merits death who can estimate the corresponding penalty for the fiends who, for the most selfish purposes, let loose hell upon earth for over four years. The crimes committed in Belgium and France were so atrocious that no mention of such deeds is to be found in the records of the words on the tablets which form the foundation of our law. The Ten Commandments state definitely the temptations of humanity and give with the voice of Authority, a "Thou shalt not" which our own human instinct for the preservation of the race re-echoes. But these awful crimes were on too colossal a scale to be taken into account in the instructions for human conduct during the earlier days of man's struggle towards a better state of society. We may be sure that Civilization, having triumphed at such a cost, will be "sternly just."

The great problem which is being discussed at the moment is—What form will the punishment take? Will the Kaiser be placed against a wall and shot, or will he be allowed to live? If the latter, will he be exiled, like Napoleon, on some obscure island a prey to his own bitter reflections? And what of the disolute Crown Prince? It may be urged in their defence that there has always been insanity in the family, and that they should be judged accordingly. That plea, though it would deprive them of liberty, is likely to meet with very little sympathy from the relatives of the fallen, or from the people of Belgium and northern France who have seen "the beast of the jungle, her jaws dripping with the blood of millions." Nor will the plea that the Kaiser and his son followed the dictates of their own bureaucrats exonerate them. It is the leader's duty to lead; if he is driven along and still remains the titular leader he must pay the penalty of his weakness, as the Czar of Russia and many other crowned heads have done. It was always open to the Kaiser to abdicate; instead of taking that course he plotted and schemed for war as every new piece of evidence adduced on the subject proves more conclusively. There is nothing vindictive in the suggestion that those who attended that fatal conference at Potsdam and decided to unsheathe the sword should now perish by the sword. It would, indeed, be only fitting that the hall in which the most diabolical conspiracy in human history was hatched should be the scene of the trial and judgment of the plotters.

The punishment of the German nation, if less dramatic than that of the leaders, must be severe. The Prussian system is discredited, and it is to be hoped that at last we have come to the end of the extravagant expenditure on armaments. Civilization, of course, will have to retain the power to defend by arms its ideals against any who may challenge them; but there will be a recognised code of international morals and no Power will be allowed to follow the example of Prussia and flagrantly outrage this for one hundred and fifty years. The elaborate system of espionage which was one of Prussia's worst contributions to the decadence of international morals must go. All the nations were compelled, in self defence, to follow the evil example set, although none of them went to the extravagant lengths of Prussia. The fate of the Romanoffs has been settled in a ghastly manner; that of the Hohenzollerns and the Hapsburgs is in the balance. We are almost inclined to pity the ex-emperor of Austria, for he reached the throne so late that it is difficult to blame him for the disasters which have overtaken his dynasty. We do not know enough of his real attitude towards the Kaiser to decide the degree of his guilt, but he might surely have taken up a firmer stand if he was opposed to the Kaiser's plans. The sins of omission are often as great as sins of commission. The definite refusal of the King of the Belgians to barter with the Kaiser over a moral issue immediately placed him high in the estimation of all decent-minded people. We have lived to see the diabolical schemes of Frederick of Prussia, and his inheritors, destroyed by the awakened vigour of Christendom, but neither the present generation nor posterity will be satisfied unless the malefactors of to-day are individually and collectively punished, not in a vindictive but in a judicial spirit.

Mr. Moore Bennet arrived in Hongkong yesterday.

The date of the Canton Poultry Show has been altered to January 4th.

One case of cerebro-spinal fever was reported in the Colony on Tuesday.

The Hon. Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., O.B.E., returned to the Colony yesterday on the Kaifong from Shanghai.

Mr. E. Irving, Director of Education, who left for Vladivostok recently on a special mission, returned to the Colony yesterday on the Kaifong.

A "Centipede" dance is being held at the Club Lusitano to-night. This is the first of a series of dances which will be held twice a month in that institution.

A small fire broke out early yesterday morning in a house at Hing Hong Road, West Point, and was extinguished by the Fire Brigade in half an hour. The damage was slight.

The Central Council of The Society of St. Vincent de Paul acknowledge with thanks a donation of \$100 from Mrs. A. M. L. Soares to the *de fresco fete* to be held on the 8th instant.

Owing to cable interruptions, heavy Government traffic, and shortage of staff through sickness, telegrams exchanged with, or traversing, Great Britain are subject to a delay of five or six days. The delay on deferred telegrams is from 10 to 14 days.

Lai Hoi, a cook in the s.s. *Tueng Sang*, has reported to the Police that at 1.5 p.m. on Tuesday, while he was walking along Wing Fat Street, three Chinese accosted him. Two of the men seized him, while the third stole money and jewellery to the value of \$35. They then disappeared.

At a Committee meeting of the Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders of Hongkong, held last evening, the following resolution was unanimously carried:—"That no person of any enemy country having taken up arms against the Allies, naturalised or otherwise, shall become a member of this Institution."

At the Magistracy, yesterday, Mr. J. E. Wood, fined a Chinese \$100, with the alternative of three months' hard labour, for harbouring a married woman. Evidence was given to the effect that the woman left her husband and lived with defendant in Hongkong as his wife. The defendant stated that the woman was starving and came to him for shelter till she found employment. In the witness-box the woman refused to say anything that would compromise the defendant.

FAR EASTERN CABLE NEWS.

[BY COURTESY OF "THE CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

PEKING NEWS.

PEKING, December 3rd.

Ng Pui-fu, the Northern leader on the Hunan front, has occupied six districts in Hunan and has declared independence from the Peking Government.

The Foreign Diplomats have pointed out to the President that the interference of the militarists in politics is an obstacle to peace. The Government, fully aware of the power wielded by the military leaders, is proposing to abolish the posts of divisional commanders and to appoint more sub-division leaders.

CANTON NEWS.

[BY COURTESY OF "THE CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

CANTON, December 4th.

QUESTION OF PEACE.

The Consular body in Shamen visited the Military Government yesterday, on instructions from their Ministers in Peking. The Consul explained that the Allied Governments are hoping for an early conclusion of peace in China.

A DEAL IN INDIGO.

CHINESE MERCHANTS AT VARIANCE.

In the Summary Court, yesterday, before Mr. Justice Gompertz, the U. Tai Sang firm, of Kan Fong Street, Wuchow, dealers in indigo, claimed from the Wa On Firm, of No. 8, Queen's Street, Hongkong, dealers in indigo and opium, the sum of \$1,323.81, for indigo sold and delivered.

Mr. F. X. d'Almeida appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. E. L. Agassiz for the defendant.

Mr. d'Almeida said that the claim was in respect of a balance due on account of indigo sent to the defendant for sale. Plaintiff waived the sum of \$233.81 and claimed only \$1,000, so as to bring the action within the jurisdiction of the Summary Court. The defendant had obtained leave to file a counter-claim, denying the debt and alleging that \$212 was due from plaintiff to defendant.

Mr. Agassiz said he brought the counter-claim as an alternative defence. Mr. d'Almeida said that the plaintiff had sent the defendant two lots of indigo to sell. Some time after the defendant had effected the sale, plaintiff asked defendant to pay two sums of \$500—one to Bing Hing and the other to Yuk On. These were paid, and the defendant was then indebted to the plaintiff in the sum of \$1,323.81. According to their own statement, defendants sent another statement to San Ki, a salesman in the plaintiff's firm (who was also a buyer in the defendants' employment). In that statement the defendant alleged that the particular lot of indigo in question was a transaction with San Ki, and had nothing to do with the plaintiff firm.

The hearing was adjourned until December 12th.

THE WAR.

IMPERIAL FAMILY NOT WANTED IN GERMANY.

ALLIED FLEET IN THE BLACK SEA.

RUSSIAN FLEET HANDED OVER TO ALLIES.

HEROISM OF FLYING MEN.

GERMAN FRONTIER CROSSED.

MARSHAL FOCH IN LONDON.

LATEST CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

ADMINISTRATIVE CONFUSION IN GERMANY.

INDEPENDENT SOCIALISTS' CONSPIRACY.

AMSTERDAM, December 1st.

A telegram from Berlin states that Herr Ebert admits that the Independent Socialists are conspiring to overthrow the Government.

The German Press says that utter administrative confusion reigns and accuses the Government of having squandered 500,000,000 marks in three weeks.

THE SOCIALISATION OF

INDUSTRY.

STOCKHOLM, December 2nd.

Strikes have broken out in Berlin in favour of the socialisation of industry.

ALLIED INTERVENTION INVITED.

The Jewish Socialist Labour Confederation has sent an appeal to the Socialists and Labourers of the Entente and the United States, to urge their Government immediately to intervene militarily.

There are pogroms in Poland and Galicia.

SOVIETS' CONGRESS TO BE HELD.

LONDON, December 2nd.

The Executive of the Berlin Soviets has resolved to welcome the Russian Bolshevik Delegation to the Soviets' Congress in Berlin to be held on December 18th.

POSSIBILITY OF A SOUTH-GERMAN REPUBLIC.

AMSTERDAM, December 2nd.

Herr Scheidemann, in an article in the *Forwaerter*, states that the danger of the disruption of the Empire is increasing daily. He says that there has been a conference with the French Command in Strassburg with a view to the creation of a South-German Republic.

CREATION OF A NEW SLAV STATE.

UNION WITH SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO.

LONDON, December 2nd.

A Belgrade telegram announces the creation of a new South-Slav State.

The Delegates of all South-Slav territories which have hitherto been ruled by Austro-Hungary met at Neustadt and proclaimed union with Serbia and Montenegro.

THE DISORDERS AT LEMBERG.

JEWS AND CHRISTIANS KILLED.

BERN, December 2nd.

The Polish Press Bureau admits that 30 Jews and 12 Christians were killed in the recent disorders at Lemberg. It says that the perpetrators were hundreds of released criminals, who were assisted by deserters. It adds that 50 of these bandits were shot, 1,500 imprisoned, of whom less than half were Poles.

THE EX-KAISER'S FATE.

OBJECT OF ALLIED PREMIERS' VISIT TO LONDON.

LONDON, December 2nd.

The *Manchester Guardian* states that it is generally understood that the primary object of the visit of M. Clemenceau and Signor Orlando to London is in regard to the question of dealing with the ex-Kaiser.

THE ROYAL AIR FORCE.

BRAVERY OF "HIGHEST POSSIBLE ORDER."

LONDON, December 1st.

The London *Gazette* states that Victoria Crosses have been awarded to the following officers of the Royal Air Force, in recognition of bravery of the highest possible order:—

Captain William George Barker, D.S.O. (with bar) M.C. (with two bars).

On the morning of October 27th, Capt. Barker shot down an enemy two-seater over Forest-de-Normal. Simultaneously, a Fokker biplane attacked him, and he was wounded on the right thigh but managed to shoot down the enemy machine which caught fire. He then found himself in the midst of a large formation of Fokkers, who attacked him from all directions. He was again severely wounded on the left thigh, but drove down two enemy machines. He then lost consciousness and his machine fell, uncontrolled.

On recovering he found himself again being heavily attacked by a large formation. He singled out a machine and deliberately charged and drove it down in flames. His left elbow was shattered in this fight and he again fainted. Recovering, he found he was still being attacked but, in spite of his severe wounds, he dived down to the nearest machine and shot it down in flames. Greatly exhausted, he dived out of the fight to regain the British lines but met another formation which attempted to cut him off, and after a hard fight he broke up the formation and reached the British lines where he crashed down on landing.

Altogether Capt. Barker has destroyed 50 enemy machines.

Lieutenant A. W. Beauchamp Proctor, D.S.O., M.C. (with bar), D.F.C., has conquered 54 foes, destroying 22 enemy machines, 16 enemy kite-balloons and driving down 18 enemy aircraft completely uncontrolled. His work, in attacking enemy troops on the ground and in reconnaissance, is almost unsurpassed in brilliancy.

BELGIAN ROYALTIES ENTER LIEGE.

LONDON, December 2nd.

A Belgian communiqué states:—The Royal Family entered Liege at the head of the troops who defended the town in 1914.

NATIONALISTS AND SINN FEINNERS.

LONDON, December 2nd.

ARRANGEMENT REGARDING ULSTER CONSTITUENCIES.

LONDON, December 2nd.

A Nationalist and Sinn Fein Conference has decided to divide six Ulster electorates equally.

The question of the Candidature in three others has been submitted to arbitration.

MARSHAL FOCH IN LONDON.

LONDON, December 2nd.

AN ENTHUSIASTIC RECEPTION.

LONDON, December 1st.

In spite of the discouraging weather unprecedented crowds welcomed Marshal Foch, M. Clemenceau and other French Delegates.

Unparalleled enthusiasm was displayed and the most prominent English statesmen, naval officers and military officers awaited the visitors at Charing Cross where a Guard of Honour was present.

The Band of the Grenadiers played the *Marseillaise*. The guests were visibly impressed with the warmth of the welcome.

OBITUARY.

LONDON, November 30th.

The death is announced of Mr. T. H. Lyons, formerly Commercial Attaché at Cairo and Second Secretary at the British Legation at Peking.

EARLIER CABLES.

THE PEACE CONFERENCE. PRELIMINARY CONVERSATIONS IN LONDON.

PARIS, December 2nd.

A Havas message says:—

Marshal Foch and M. Clemenceau were given a wonderful reception in London yesterday. They were welcomed at Charing Cross by H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught and the Premier, a packed mass of people greeting them with volleys of cheers.

The British Press see in Marshal Foch the conqueror of Germany. M. Clemenceau, the Press states, is a man full of years and energy, and has won the confidence of all the Allied nations.

The object of the visit is to arrange with Signor Orlando and Baron Sonnino the preliminaries of the Peace Conference.

ANGLO-FRENCH ALLIANCE.

PARIS, December 2nd.

A Havas message says:—French comment urges the prolongation of the pact made in London in September, 1914, beyond the signature of the Peace Treaty.

The Press also urges the settling of the procedure to be followed at the inter-Allied conference.

The latter will consist of a preliminary conversation among the Missions appointed by the Associated Powers. There will afterwards be a more general conversation among the Delegates.

The first phase will begin after President Wilson's arrival.

COMING REJOICINGS IN PARIS.

PARIS, December 2nd.

A Havas message says:—

At least six official visits to Paris are expected to take place during December.

King Albert is arriving next Thursday, while the other visitors will be President Wilson, the King of Italy, the Prince Regent of Serbia, the King of Greece and a British Naval Deputation.

THE HEROES OF 1870.

PARIS, December 2nd.

A Havas message says:—

President Poincaré yesterday attended the annual gathering at Champigny in honour of the French soldiers who fell during the siege of 1870. The President said that in future the dark days of 1870 would be viewed only through a prism of new glory. The battle of the Marne, the defence of Verdun and the rout of the Germans formed a magnificent epilogue of the war of 1870.

POOR OLD JONES!

COMEDY OF A PARACHUTE THAT DID NOT OPEN.

The man who tells you that all the adventure is to be found in an aeroplane is either very young or ignorant of the existence of a balloon section.

An observation balloon of thirty or forty thousand cubic feet and tethered by a cable little thicker than the average clothes line, can behave as provocatively as a mule in the transport. Down below, the calmness may recall the deadness of the Red Sea; the observers signal that they wish to go higher. Up another hundred feet, and bang! into an air current she goes. The breaking strain of the cable may be untempered, but a jerk is different from a steady pull. Snap! Away she goes! and she swings with the wind toward the enemy lines. The observers make ready to jump, trusting to the parachute. One tug at the ripping cord, and over they go.

It seems to take years to come down in a parachute. If "Jerry" happens to be in a playful mood and takes it into his head to have a little target practice at the old umbrellas as it is falling.

An observer, before ascending, insists, or should insist, on seeing his parachute rolled up, so that when he takes the fatal leap he will have an even chance of "getting away with it." A faulty roll, a twisted rope, and—well, he takes no further interest in the war. It requires great courage for one observer to have to throw another overboard when that other is suffering from stage fright.

The C.O. of a training depot once asked a "fledgling" (call him Jones) to go up to 4,000 feet and make an experimental leap. Jones declined with subtlety of phraseology that saved him a reprimand. A sack was weighted and christened Jones by the contemptuous ones gathered around the C.O. "The sack" attached to a parachute, was dropped from a height of 4,000 feet, and it came down, plunk! The chute had failed to open.

There was a horrible silence for a second, and the C.O. was holding his breath. Jones stepped slowly forward to the sack as it lay on the ground; gravely he saluted, then turned away. "Poor old Jones!" he said.

HONGKONG CIVIL SERVICE.

SOME IMPORTANT CHANGES IMPENDING.

We understand that several important changes are about to be made in the Civil Service as a result of the retirement, and impending departure from the Colony, of the Hon. Mr. A. M. Thomson, Colonial Treasurer, after a service extending over thirty-one years.

Mr. Thomson, who is *ex-officio* a member of the Executive and Legislative Councils, was born on September 27th, 1857, at Turfiff, Scotland. He had a successful career at Aberdeen University, taking his M. A. degree, with first-class honours in Mathematics, when he was only 20 years of age. For the next two years he was lecturer in Mathematics at the Naina Tal College, North West Provinces, India, but in 1887 returned to Scotland and took up the appointment of Assistant Professor of Mathematics at Aberdeen. In the same year he entered the Hongkong Civil Service by the usual competitive examination and after spending 12 months in the Colonial Office, during which period he won the Baron Scholarship at Gray's Inn, he came out to the Colony in October, 1888. Having attained, in the course of two years, the necessary proficiency in the Chinese language, he was appointed chief clerk of the Secretariat in November, 1890. Since then he has occupied the usual run of administrative positions, including those of Clerk of Councils, Superintendent of Victoria Gaol, Assistant Colonial Secretary, Registrar-General, Postmaster-General and Colonial Treasurer in July, 1898, and since then has shown great ability in financial matters, and has presided over the deliberations of two Commissions on the subsidiary coinage question. One of his most noteworthy compilations was the first edition of the Hongkong General Orders, which is now in use. Since 1902 he has acted as Colonial Secretary on several occasions. The best wishes of the Colony will follow him into his retirement.

Mr. C. Mallvaine Messer, who succeeds Mr. Thomson as Colonial Treasurer, entered the Service as a Cadet in 1897 and a year later was appointed Acting Assistant Colonial Secretary and Clerk of Councils. After being employed for a few months on Land Registration in the New Territories, he was appointed Magistrate in the New Territories in December, 1899. For one year from March, 1901, Mr. Messer gained his first experience in the Treasury, of which he now becomes the permanent head. On May 14th, 1902, he vacated the post of Acting Colonial Treasurer, and after passing his final examination, was appointed Acting Registrar-General in June, 1902. A year later he was again serving in the Land Department, this time as Assistant Land Officer, and Police Magistrate in the New Territories. Mr. Messer was appointed Acting Postmaster-General in 1907, and about a year later found himself Head of the Sanitary Department. Between 1909 and the end of 1912 he acted twice as Acting Colonial Treasurer. In 1913 he became Captain-Superintendent of Police, which position he has occupied till the present time. Mr. Messer, who is 44 years of age, was a Wrangler at Cambridge—a better qualification for his new position than for that which he vacates.

Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe, who has been appointed Captain-Superintendent of Police, was born in 1872. He was transferred to the Colony from the F.M.S., where he had spent two years as a cadet, and soon after his arrival in 1901, passed his final examination and was appointed Registrar, Land Court, New Territories. In the same year he acted as Secretary to the Commissions of Inquiry into the Medical Department and the Public Works Department, and in October, 1902, became Acting Second Police Magistrate. The next few months found Mr. Wolfe being moved about from one Department to another, till September, 1904, when he reverted to the Magistracy. In March, 1905, he was seconded for service as Transvaal Emigration Agent at Cheloo. Returning in 1907, Mr. Wolfe became Acting Inspector of Schools, and, in addition, Assistant Registrar-General. In 1909 he was appointed Head of the Sanitary Department, and for four months in 1911, in addition, Acting Director of Education. He returned from half-pay leave to find himself Postmaster-General. For six months, in 1916, he was Acting Colonial Treasurer. Mr. Wolfe was appointed First Police Magistrate in February, 1917.

It was only to be expected that Mr. J. E. Wood, who has sat on the Bench for so many years, should be promoted First Magistrate in the place vacated by Mr. Wolfe. Mr. Wood is an M.A. (Cantab) and entered the Civil Service in 1899. Like many other Cadets, his first few years were spent in different appointments in the New Territories. He was appointed Acting Second Magistrate in 1908. Except for a few months in 1911 and 1912, when he acted as Director of Education, Mr. Wood has always been connected with the Magistracy, and the

(Continued at foot of next column.)

WHAT GERMANY WANTED.

Read the following indications of what the Huns would have done with victory.

Holland, together with her Royal Family, her European possessions, and her Colonies, in South America, the Indian Islands, and Australasia, must become the Ally of Germany.

Germany, under the guise of economic exploitation and protection, will win back to Kultur the Asiatic possessions of Turkey.

The Germany falls, in South-East Asia, yet another German possession, namely, the islands of the Indian Ocean, which next to British India, forms the most valuable colony in the world.

In order to maintain the balance of power Germany will be compelled to bring under her sway the largest possible stretch of land in the basins of the two great Chinese rivers, the Hwangho, and the Yangtze-Kiang.

In Central America we Germans have let slip the opportunity for obtaining Cuba.

Germany must lay hands upon Central Africa, from the mouth of the Orange River to Lake Chad, from the Cameroons Mountains to the mouth of the Rovuma; she must seize Asia Minor and the Malay Islands in South-East Asia, and, lastly, the southern half of South America.

Tannenberg in "Gross Deutschland." "We must create a Central Europe which will guarantee the peace of the entire Continent from the moment when it shall have driven the Russians from the Black Sea and the Slavs from the South and shall have conquered large tracts to the East of our frontiers for German colonisation."

Paul de Lagarde in "Deutsche Schriften."

Denmark, as commanding the approaches to the Baltic, is of great military importance to us.

General von Bernhardi in "Germany and the Next War."

Fan-Germanism absorbs also the Scandinavians.

Ernest Hasse in "Zwanzig Jahre All-deutscher Arbeit."

The future territory of German expansion must stretch from the North Sea to the Baltic; from the Netherlands, taking in Luxembourg and Switzerland, down to the Islands of the Danube and the Balkan Peninsula, and would include Asia Minor as far as the Persian Gulf.

Ernst Hasse in "Weltpolitik."

"We will annex Denmark, Holland, Belgium, Switzerland, Livonia, Trieste, Venice and the North of France from the Somme to the Loire."

General Bronsart von Schellendorf, former German Minister of War.

"Deep-seated States like the Argentine and Brazilian Republics, and more or less all those beggarly States of South America would be induced, either by force or otherwise, to listen to reason."

Friedrich Lange, in "Reines Deutschland."

Germany, Austria-Hungary and Italy, bound together by economic interests in Central Europe, form a great domain which would be very happily rounded off by the addition of Switzerland, Belgium and Holland in the West, and of Poland and Lithuania in the East."

Paul Dehn, in "Deutschland unter der Okkupation."

"All Morocco in the hands of Germany; German cannon on the routes to Egypt and India, German troops on the Algerian frontier; this would be a goal worthy of great sacrifices."

Maximilian Harden, in "Zukunft," July 28th, 1911.

"If Central Europe comes to nothing, then we shall indeed have Central Africa. Central Europe, on the other hand, without Central Africa, cannot be contemplated for a moment."

Dr. Paul Leutwein, in "Europäische Staats- und Wirtschafts-Leitung."

"A victorious war would give us the Belgian Congo, the French Congo, and if Portugal continues to translate her hostile intentions towards us into actions would also give us the Portuguese Colonies on the East and West coasts of Africa. Between Egypt, which is still English, and Anglo-Boer South Africa would stretch the immense band of our Colonial possessions, extending from the Indian Ocean to the Atlantic. Still English, we say advisedly of North-East and South Africa. For who can tell what may happen when the words of the poet are realised: 'One day Germanism will be the salvation of the world.'"

Kreuzzeitung des Ostheeres (official publication issued by the German Commander at Lodz on the occasion of the German Emperor's birthday, January 27th, 1915).

"The necessity of strengthening the agricultural basis of our nation requires a considerable extension of the Imperial and Prussian frontiers in the East by annexation of at least parts of the Baltic Provinces and of those territories which lie to the south of it."

From the Manifesto of Six German Industrial Associations, May, 1915.

very conscientious manner in which he has discharged his duties has been readily admitted even by those who like ourselves have not always agreed with his decisions.

Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, Deputy Registrar and Appraiser of the Supreme Court, who succeeded Mr. Wood as Second Magistrate, is a barrister-at-law and has been connected with the various legal departments in the Service since he entered it in 1900 as First Clerk of the Police Magistrate's Office. He acted as Second Police Magistrate for the first time in 1905. Three years later he was appointed Acting Deputy Registrar, in which post he was confirmed on September 21st, 1907. Except for a period of 2 months in 1911 and 1912, when he again acted as Second Police Magistrate, Mr. Melbourne has discharged his duties in the Supreme Court.

The vacancy in the Registry is being filled by Mr. R. E. Lindell, Third Assistant Secretary for Chinese Affairs. Mr. Lindell has held the acting appointments of Second Police Magistrate, Assistant Postmaster-General, and Chief Assistant to the Secretary for Chinese Affairs.

Mr. Walter Schofield, M.A. (Liv. and Oxon.) who was seconded to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank a few months ago, from the Secretariat for Chinese Affairs, will now revert to his post.

WHAT BOLSHIEVISM MEANS

[BY PROFESSOR H. T. PRICE, M.A., PH.D.]

(Author of "Boche and Bolshevism")

We have read so much in the last day or two about Bolshevism being established in Europe, that it is worth while enquiring how it really works. The accounts of it that have as yet appeared, speak only of the murders and robberies. I wish in this article to ignore their bloodshed and simply to state what the Bolsheviks' ideals are and what is the result when these ideals are put into practice.

Bolshevism is a term which may be translated as "Maximalism." The Bolsheviks who demand the maximum of Socialism, are the Socialist "whole-hoggers." They start from the theory that the middle-classes are incapable of rule and that only two classes can govern the country—the capitalists or the workmen. Since it has to be one of the two, they are determined it shall be the workmen. Their watchword is not freedom for all, but the Dictatorship of the Proletariat, the tyranny of one class of society above all the others.

Their organ of government is the Soviet. Lenin boasts that the day of Parliaments has passed and that he has discovered something better, which will take their place all over the world. A Soviet is simply a Council. Its constituents are the various Trades Unions, who elect members in proportion to their numbers. The Soviet in turn appoints Commissars who correspond to our Ministers of State. Exactly how the Commissars are all made to go in the same direction I do not know. Lenin spent a good deal of time last year in writing articles to prove that a President was as useless as a King and that no formal head of a Government is necessary. From what I have heard, the absence of a formal head only leads to a series of intrigues between conflicting parties, which very much hampers government while they continue, and generally result in some dominant personality attaining the leadership and filling up the chief posts with creatures of his own.

The franchise, which is supposed to include all those who work for their living, is a shamelessly artificial one. To take but one instance. In Irkutsk the Bolsheviks found themselves in a minority in the Soviet. They therefore declared that the franchise must be changed. It was too bourgeois. They succeeded in carrying through a new principle—that the franchise should belong to "physical labour" only. All such occupations as demanded education were ruled out. Some of the more enlightened Bolsheviks tried to obtain the vote for elementary school-teachers, but they were shouted down. Similar gerrymandering has taken place in every part of Russia. There is another peculiarity about the Soviet. They are elected by physical labour, but who controls them? In no case members of the working-classes. Lenin's principle is that the working-man is too stupid to know what is good for him and he must be told what to do. Soviet rule is a system by which a handful of political adventurers first impose themselves on a party, and then impose this party on the State.

Bolshevism is a tyranny and like all other tyrannies has great need of secrecy. Do not let any English readers run away with the idea that because Lenin published the secret agreements of Kerenski, he is therefore an enemy of secret diplomacy himself. He concluded the treaty of Brest-Litovsk with Germany, and the Russian people to this day do not know that he pledged them to it. At Irkutsk reports had the right to be present at the debates of the Soviet and such reports as did appear were officially prepared and often issued a month later. At that time Irkutsk was on the verge of starvation and it was necessary to put heart in the people with a promise of plenty. So from time to time they officially stated that they had reached an agreement with China by which the frontier was to be opened. These statements were deliberate untruths. In a Parliament it would have been possible to force a debate on this and make the Government explain why the frontier was still closed and declare its policy. In view of the fact that the Union of Democratic Control, the *Manchester Guardian*, *Lees Smith*, and others of that kind, have been such staunch supporters of the Bolsheviks, it is extremely important to realise that under Soviet rule there is no democratic control at all, and more secrecy than there ever was under the Czar.

To turn to commerce and finance. The Bolsheviks call themselves Communists and aim at the abolition of private property. Land may neither be bought nor sold, when you die all your property goes to the State, and while you are alive the State may take from you what it pleases. Nothing is yours, all is the State's. The effect Parliaments of the West generally estimate their expenditure for the coming year, and plan their taxation accordingly. Not so the Soviet. They do indeed levy taxes, but they are always in want of money. Their plan is simply to go to the nearest rich man, and "touch" him for the amount. From one man alone at Irkutsk they had obtained £15,000 in three months. In many towns they had had the rich white and were beginning on the middle classes. What ever they wanted, they took—houses, furniture, cattle, horses, motor-cars—without any compensation. If you were ruined, you were brutally told to go and work with your hands. In one town, where they took a house with all that was in it, the lady had just got in a stock of underclothing for the summer. Not conceiving what use these things could be to the Soviet, she petitioned that they might be handed over to her. She was told that it was impossible as the articles in question had already been nationalized.

Everything was nationalized. It began with the banks. You could get money to pay your workmen with, but if you wanted it for anything else, you needed the

license of the Soviet. You became the slave of the Soviet and could spend nothing except as they directed you. This power was mercilessly used to crush opponents. All mines and factories were nationalized and passed completely into the control of the working man. They lived on the capital of the firm, gave themselves high wages and did no work. Most of the undertakings had to be closed, and I did not hear that the working-men made a success of it in a single case. And they were far greedier than the capitalist. One Petrograd factory was making overruns at a price to themselves of 4 roubles a pair. They put them on the market at 45 roubles a pair. At the Cherebovo coal-mines the miners voted themselves 50 roubles a day—whether they worked or not. As a result all those public services which depended on Cherebovo coal, either showed a great deficit or had to put their prices up, while private enterprises dependent on Cherebovo coal simply could not continue. Munition factories after peace was signed, simply refused to be shut down. They insisted on orders being given them to keep them at work. Where will you find things as bad as this in the worst days of capitalism?

To come to the Land Question the Bolshevik formula is, "No one is to receive less than is sufficient to support a man and his family or more than a man and his family can cultivate." It puts a damper on all enterprise, sets the man of ambition and ability on the same level with the lazy and the stupid, and makes of the former a mere grubber of the soil. The Bolsheviks boast of having collected and distributed a large amount of agricultural machinery.

But they have "collected" it from the rich farmers, who knew how to use it, and distributed it among the ignorant peasants who understand nothing about it at all. They have driven away the intelligent and educated men who were the backbone of Russian agriculture and in their place have put men who will not be able to get out of the land a quarter of what their predecessors did. The peasants are not grateful, but hate them intensely. The peasant wants to own his bit of land, he wants to be free to develop it, and he dearly loves the joy of battling with a foe. None of these things are possible under the Socialists.

We come to education. Here they have persecuted the teachers who would not acknowledge their power and put them on the street to starve. In some Siberian towns they have declared that education makes people bourgeois and that therefore all schooling must cease at the age of sixteen. At Vladivostok they are openly inciting their supporters to murder all students and professors. Everybody knows that if they were returned to power in Vladivostok not a single member of the Oriental Institute would be left alive at the same time they are trying to make the stage and the cinematograph organs of Bolshevism. No play and no film is to be allowed that is not Bolshevik in tendency. It is true that at Irkutsk they used to give "evenings" at cheap prices with the idea of providing the people with good intellectual fare. Mozart, Moliere, and the classical Russians used to figure on the programme. But all they have done has been too one-sided and special. Education demands freedom, and that is the one thing they will not give.

One of the strangest Bolshevik novelties was their reform of judicial procedure. Laws, lawyers and judges were abolished at one blow. You might be prosecuted for treason. Your judges would be chosen from the people to officiate for this occasion only, perhaps they would not be able to read or write. The prosecuting counsel would be a man of the same type. You instructed whoever you liked to appear for you. The court had to make law and find on the fact at the same time. Having established what you had done, they would proceed to deliberate as to whether it came within their idea of a crime. The public were invited to help them and anyone who chose might speak as long as he liked. Even schoolboys took part. The proceedings were not so terrible for the defendant as might appear. He usually got a real lawyer to defend him, who could put his case skilfully. The representative of the Soviet was no match for him as a rule. Judges were lenient except to the Socialists and the Press. You were not always certain of being tried. The Bolsheviks would arrest a group of people on a charge of conspiracy and shoot them the same day. The absence of laws left the Press very hard. All the organs pressed one by one. It was only too easy to convict a newspaper of sedition, if you made up the law on the subject afresh for each case.

These are just a few aspects of Bolshevik rule. In conclusion I should like to give a concrete instance of how extreme Socialism works. A professional industry attained a distinguished position. Come the Bolsheviks, commander him out of his rooms, and threaten to turn by one of their own men. When he protests, they just tell him he will still be able to work with his hands. That family, for whom he had saved some money, if he died, the Bolsheviks would immediately step in and take all he possessed, including even the insurance. His wife might get some sort of a pension, his daughters would have to stop going to school and become servants or waitresses. His son perhaps would also have to give up his education and might manage to get a job as a cabdriver. The Socialist says how splendid! The children of rich and poor on an equality at last! Yes, the lazy and extravagant placed on exactly the same level as the industrious and the thrifty. Whether you spend what you earn, or whether you save it, it is all the same for those who come after you. On this rock the artificial restrictions of Bolshevism are sure to split. You will never persuade a man that the State will look after those dear to him as well as he himself can. You cannot take from him the right of providing with the fruits of his labour for wife and child. He will resent with the deepest and bitterest anger of which he is capable, any endeavour to rob him of these privileges and to make the State sole arbiter of the destiny of his children.

DEMOCRACIES AND THE FUTURE OF THE NEAR EAST.

PROBLEMS THAT MUST BE SOLVED IF THIS IS TO BE THE LAST WAR.

[BY SIR MARK SYKES, M.P.]

The time is not far distant when the democracy of the world in general, and of this country in particular, will be called upon to consider the questions of the Near East. For the purposes of this article the Near East may be defined as those parts of the world which could be compassed by an 800-mile radius centred on Jerusalem.

Within this circle lie problems which until they are solved must menace the establishment of a permanent world peace. The democracies of the *Entente* are undoubtedly determined that this war shall be the last war, but it will certainly not be the last war unless they use the victory which lies before them to remove certain root causes of war.

The mere combination of goodwill and general war-weariness working in the minds of this generation will not be sufficient to prevent future generations drifting into war.

In this article it is proposed to consider the elimination of certain future war-producing elements in the area under consideration. Regarded from an historic point of view this area has been the littoral along which the tides of Eastern invasion have flowed and ebbed for countless centuries. The moral and material causes of this ebb and flow had spent their force long before the present world conflict took place. There will be no more Mongol hordes sweeping across the world, there will be no more Crusades or Jahads, but the results of those past conflicts have implanted in this area the causes of existing troubles, which, unless uprooted, will lead to future wars.

THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE.

If we take the average man of which British democracy is composed, we shall find that in regard to this area he has already certain fundamental and important facts in his mind. He knows (1) that Constantinople is of itself of vast strategic importance; (2) that the Armenians and subject races of Turkey have been misgoverned for centuries; (3) that Mesopotamia is a potential source of immense food-producing power, and that the Suez Canal is a station on the way to India; (4) that Jerusalem is the sentimental centre both of Christianity and Judaism; (5) that Mecca is the symbolic centre of the Moslem faith; (6) that the Berlin military clique intended to seize all these things in order to subjugate the Eastern world, just as they meant to seize Paris and Boulogne in order to subjugate the Western world. He knows that to counter this move he fought at Gallipoli, on the Canal, and in Palestine and Mesopotamia. The British Democracy at any rate requires no teaching as to the main outlines of the situation. When we come to details the matter is much more complicated. The Ottoman Empire which in the days of Queen Elizabeth appeared to be tottering to its fall, has continued to exist, because the selfishness and greed of pre-war Europe have supplied it with a constant series of champions and defenders. The Ottoman Empire has continued to exist for two reasons. Firstly, because the pre-war statesmen of the Great Powers preferred to see a barbarous and imprudent tyranny in the East rather than the redemption of these areas should add to the existing strength of a possibly hostile Power. Secondly, because the Ottoman Government has known how to avail itself of the protection of international finance.

THE TURK AND THE NON-TURK.

The Ottoman Empire has for the last half century purchased its existence by playing on the fears and rivalries of European Powers, and by pawing and mortgaging the resources of the inhabitants of its provinces to various groups of financiers. Through the medium of certain middlemen these groups forced on the Ottoman Government arms and munitions, trafficked in bogus railways, and fore-stalled each other in obtaining concessions. It has always been the policy of these groups to prevent any drastic action being taken to bring the Ottoman Empire under any kind of effective control, because they knew full well that once the Ottoman Empire was controlled, the profits of the concession business and the armament trade would come to an end. It has been part of the nemesis of the Allies that they countenanced and even assisted in building uneconomic railways which, though they did not develop the country, fitted in exactly with Turco-German military schemes. It was moreover, the financiers who succeeded in forcing on the Turks those weapons of precision which the latter have known so well how to use during the war.

If the problems of the Middle East are to be solved after the war it stands to reason that they must be approached in a very different spirit to that adopted by those whose combined and co-operative suspicion, greed and chicanery were responsible for the pre-war situation. We have seen how unskilful and financially supported the power of the Ottoman Empire. It is worth considering how the Ottoman Empire has used its power within its own borders. The theory and practice of the Ottoman Government has always been to support the Turk against the non-Turk, and to foment discord and rivalry wherever party politics, family feuds, sectarian differences or racial antagonism offered an opportunity. As a result of this policy extended over several centuries we find an agglomeration of peoples not only reduced to the lowest depths of poverty and misery, but torn by a host of rivalries and animosities in which it has been the devilish purpose of their misrule to school them.

CUTTING OUT THE CANCER.

We have therefore two problems to solve. The first is to prevent the Turks dividing Europe against itself; the second is to redeem from bondage the Asiatic peoples whom the Turks have oppressed. So long as the effective military force which

"THOU SHALT NOT."

ALL COMMANDMENTS BROKEN BY GERMANS.

Until this war one had an idea that the civilisation of those countries in which the teaching of Christianity had been practised for some centuries, was to some extent permeated with regard to its precepts. We have been taught that paganism and barbarity were defeated with the hosts of Attila on the field of Chalons, and we accepted the inference that the actions of Christian nations must in modern times be tempered with the more humane doctrine taught in the Sermon on the Mount. But this, like many another of our cherished beliefs, has been shattered. The German of latter days has deliberately taken upon himself the old-time role of "The Scourge of God."

Christian nations the Commandments though it is admitted that they are frequently broken, are accepted necessarily as furnishing an ethical code for the regulation of human conduct. Christ enjoined their observance, explained their fuller meaning, and gave a positive application to such as were originally expressed in a negative form. The German nation while professing Christianity for political purposes, has for many years set up, and taught in every school, a pagan system of moral regulations entirely different from those of the Decalogue.

The first Commandment says "Thou shalt have none other God but me." The German teachers have said "Blessed are the makers of war, for they shall be children of Odin, who is greater than Jahoe." The second Commandment forbids the worship of things of earth. The German teachers have urged their hearers to bow the knee to a horrible Moloch whom they have designated Weltmacht. The third Commandment enjoins reverence. Throughout this war German hearts have been cheered by blasphemous assurances of the Emperor that he, in view of his command of military machine capable of dealing death and destruction, is properly to be regarded as the "All Highest." If this is the attitude of the German nation towards those Commandments which define duty to God, what can one expect with regard to those which indicate man's duty to his fellow-men?

All events this is what we find. The fifth Commandment forbids murder. Those operating on German submarines are accustomed to gather the crew of a fishing vessel on the submarine's deck, deliberately take away all life-belts, and after sinking the life-boat with the vessel, to submerge their craft and leave these wretched men struggling in the water. This has been done not in one or two instances, but regularly, repeatedly, and systematically. The seventh Commandment prohibits adultery. Yet German professors write calmly in German reviews "polygamy is, of course, a necessity for the German people, in order to make good the losses of the war; it only remains to organise a decent method of practising it." It is forbidden to steal; yet looting has been the custom of the German armies in every theatre of war, the Crown Prince himself setting the example with a collection of souvenirs which must be now be quite a respectable large one. Thou shalt not bear false witness has been written. Yet perjured testimony has been used again and again in attempts to justify such crimes as the sinking of the *Lusitania* and the murders of Miss Cavell and Captain Fryatt. Covetousness is the whole origin of the war; the most convincing illustration of it is furnished by German dealing with Russia, Rumania, and Serbia.

If the Central European powers have broken the ten Commandments, they have also not succeeded in observing the eighth addition, which says "Thou shalt not be found out." Four years of this war have exposed in all its hideousness their active repudiation of every humanitarian dictate, and as the Allies conserve themselves fresh to their task yet unshaken by the war, the firm conviction that until their ranks have been excised, peace, prosperity and justice cannot be effectually restored.

dominates the Dardanelles and Bosphorus is Turkish, so long will Constantinople be the hatching place of wars, the focus of intrigues both political and financial. If Allied democracy is not going to fall where its predecessors, the Consort of Europe, fell, then that cancer must be cut out of world politics. The Turk holds Constantinople because no one nation dare trust another with so great a prize. But we know what Turkish guardianship of these Straits means—tyranny in Asia, disunion in Europe. The only remedy, in the interests of the world, is to nationalize the Straits under the word. Whether the Sultan resides at Constantinople or not is a matter of little consequence, but Allied democracy must be entirely responsible for the fairway, and have on the spot an effective force on land, in the sea and in the air, which will put its authority and supremacy beyond all question. Further, Allied democracy will have to see to it that concession hunting, financial intrigue, and group work as between the Ottoman Government and individual Powers, are things of the past. If Levantine finance is to continue as a post war factor in the Near East, then one of the root causes of future conflicts will have been left untouched.

International finance, before the war, as organized in Istanbul, represented nothing less than organized corruption. A number of agents, to wit, and hangers-on acted as go-betweens, twist that depraved mass of corruption and villainy, the Ottoman Government, and the various cliques of money-mongers in European capitals. Finance interfered in policy, and diplomacy interfered in finance, nations were set by the ears, wars promoted, people uprooted, reforms delayed or rendered nugatory, in order that individual fortunes might be built up, or that profits should accrue to certain combines. Idealism, morality, fair-dealing, or any motive force which tended to promote the welfare of mankind could not exist in the atmosphere of rascality which prevailed.

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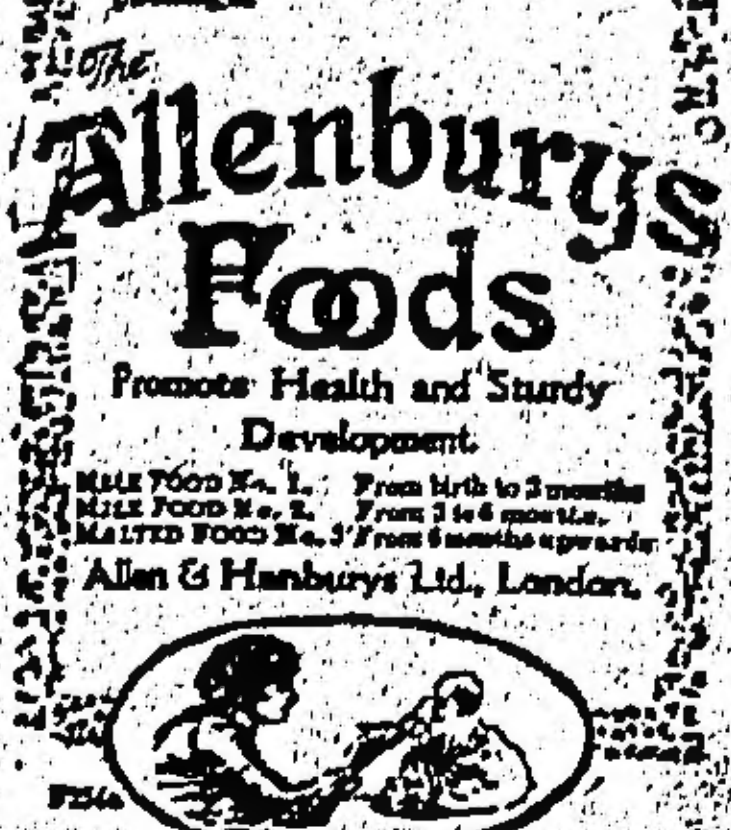
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| NAGASAKI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA | NIKKO MARU — 9,800 TONS | Sat. 22nd Dec. 11 A.M. |
| YOKOHAMA | KITANO MARU — 10,380 TONS | Sat. 18th Jan. 11 A.M. |
| SHANGHAI, MOJI & KOBE | YOROPPA MARU No. 2 — 7,000 TONS | Wed. 11th Dec. |
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| | YOKOHAMA MARU — 12,340 TONS | Mon. 30th Dec. at 11 A.M. |
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| NEW YORK via SHANGHAI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA, SAN FRANCISCO and PANAMA CANAL | TENSHIN MARU — 8,470 TONS | Fri. 30th Dec. |
| BOMBAY via SINGAPORE, MALACCA & COLOMBO | TOYOOKA MARU — 15,210 TONS | Sat. 7th Dec. |
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